

NEWS

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STATINTL

## *Spy Versus Spy*

Subplots to the presidential themes are reminders that author Ian Fleming, real life alter ego of fictional spy James Bond, may be untimely dead but his influence remains current.

First the Democrats planted a lady spy, outfitted with the proper combination of svelte and brass, aboard Sen. Goldwater's Midwest-touring train to boobytrap his campaign trail with verbal harbs. Now Democratic campaign generals claim master-plotters over in the GOP camp tried to hire an HQ flunky to spy for them.

Both schemes were parried. Republicans tiptoed the train corridor at midnight, searched luggage, identified the Mata Hari and dumped her in Parkersburg, W. Va., which is cruel and unreasonable punishment even for a spy. The Democrats, in turn, learned of the GOP's alleged attempt to buy one of their men and used him as a double agent to spoon-feed the opposition doctored data.

On most issues, the choice in this year's campaign is clear to the majority of voters, but on one issue it appears to be a toss-up. Whoever wins, there's reason to fret over how well the CIA will function.

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